In an Emergency or After Hours:

If there is a threat of danger and you are on the Atlanta campus, please call the Mercer Police at 678-547-6358. They are available 24/7!

FAQ

How do I refer a Student?
To refer a student to the SAT, you can contact the chair, Claire Dyes, by calling her at 678-547-6821 or emailing dyes_c@mercer.edu. If you are concerned about a student but have not witnessed any distressing or disruptive behavior, please explain your concern in detail.

Why do I matter?
Your interactions and observations matter to the Student Assistance Team. You may be the first to notice a change in a student’s behavior or appearance or can provide valuable information regarding class attendance and social interactions.

Will I receive an update about the student?
Every situation is different. In general, reporting parties will be contacted only if further information is needed. Due to the confidentiality of most cases, only limited information will be shared with you.

The mission of the Student Assistance Team is to provide a collaborative approach to identifying and responding to students who exhibit behaviors that indicate the need for intervention. The goal of the SAT is to provide the safest environment for all members of the campus community.
A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH TO ENSURE STUDENT SUCCESS.

The purpose of the SAT:

- Serve as a resource for faculty, staff, and students to address the needs of students who are experiencing significant behavioral disturbances.
- Recommend collaborative and purposeful interventions aimed at helping students achieve success.
- Establish a process that is designed to be helpful to students, particularly when the rights of others or an individual’s growth and development are being endangered.
- Assist members of the University community with a legitimate concern regarding students who seem to be experiencing emotional distress, psychological difficulties, or are unable to handle stressful circumstances.

Examples of concerning behavior:

- Goes beyond the normal classroom disturbances and student appears distressed.
- Changes in academic performance, pattern of interaction and/or physical appearance.
- Highly disturbed behavior.
- Outburst of anger.
- Inability to communicate clearly.
- Irrational conversations or speech that seems disconnected.
- Loss of contact with reality.
- Statements related to death or hopelessness.
- Threats of harming self or others.

Judicial or SAT?

If a student is displaying disruptive conduct in or outside the classroom that interferes with the activity or function of the University, the student should be referred to the Office of Judicial Affairs. 678-547-6823.

The SAT PROCESS

Student displays concerning behaviors.

Student, staff, or faculty makes a referral to the SAT chair via email or phone.

Student Assistance Team reviews the referral at the next scheduled meeting or one that is called.

With consensus from the members, an appropriate level of intervention is determined.